KAGURA UGUISU

It's my first time writing a close future SF, but I love the genre. It was really hard to work on, but it's an interesting piece, so I enjoyed it. My skills may still be lacking, but I hope you can enjoy it nevertheless.

鶯神楽
UGUISU KAGURA

ビートレスーディストピア

BEATLESS -dystopia

Kadokawa Comics A

原作 長谷敏司
SATOSHI HASE
漫画 鶯神楽
KAGURA UGUISU
キャラクター原案 redjuice

01

Kadokawa Comics A

BEATLESS -dystopia ビートレスーディストピア

01

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KCA414-1
角川書店

9784041203996

1920979005600

ISBN978-4-04-120399-6
C0979 ¥560E

定価:本体560円(税別)
発行:角川書店

2015 A.D. Japan
The humanoid android hiE became a part of people's lives and was handling the things humans could and couldn't do. Endou Arato, unlike his friends Kenko and Ryou who hate hiE, felt sympathy for hiE which are supposed to be just objects. One night, Arato suddenly gets assaulted by mysterious falling cherry blossoms that make hiE and machines run havoc. Will the cornered Arato be saved by the mysterious hiE Lacia...?

—I believe in that smile. Even if you don't have a soul —

BEATLESS -dystopia

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-dystopia

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Phase1 [Encounter]
THE FIRST WAS A NIGHTMARE ABOUT BEING ENGULFED BY FLAMES.
IN HIS SLEEP, ARATO WAS ALWAYS SEEING TWO DREAMS.
.....
THE SECOND WAS A DREAM ABOUT A DOG SHAKING ITS TAIL.
I'M ENDOU ARATO.
LET'S BE FRIENDS.

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Phase1[Encounter]

BEATLESS
-dystopia

BEATLESS
– dystopia

Contents

- Phase1 [Encounter] | 001
- Phase2 [Contract] | 045
- Phase3 [New days] | 073
- Phase4 [Place of the soul] | 099
- Phase5 [Disquieting advice] | 127
- Phase6 [Relative distance] | 151
- Phase0 [Omen] | 181
- afterword | 194

SO HOT.

AND IT'S ONLY APRIL...

THAT'S TRUE, KENGO. BUT I PREPARED PLENTY FOR CLASS YESTERDAY.

YOU CAN'T SAY THAT. YOU SLEPT JUST AS LONG AS I DID.

ARATO, YOU SURE CAN SLEEP DURING CLASS.

RYOU.

I LEARN MORE DURING THE BREAK THAN IN CLASS.

THE REASON I'M STILL IN SCHOOL IS SO THAT I CAN DEVELOP MY SOCIALIZING.

WELL,

I ENVY YOU FOR YOUR ONLY GOOD TRAIT, INTELLI-GENCE.

DON'T PRAISE ME.

AND YOUR EXCUSES TOO.

RICH PEOPLE SURE ARE DYNAMIC.

beep

INTELLI-GENCE IS JUST POINTLESS IN OUR TIME.

HEY! MY HONEYS!!

ACCORDING TO MY ANALYSIS, IN TEN YEARS A HUMAN'S JOB WILL BE

ONLY TO GET ALONG WITH GIRLS!!

はぁ…

THEN, WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

追加課題

SCHOOL EXISTS FOR BREAKS RIGHT?

KAIDAI-SAN,

IMPRESSIVE HOW YOU CAN SAY THAT HERE.

SINCE THAT WAS ONE MY GOAL PER THIS YEAR. WEEK.

I worked really hard

YOU ALREADY HIT ON EVERY GIRL IN CLASS, RIGHT.

?

IN THE END, THE GIRLS ALL HATED HIM.

RYOU HITTING ON THE GIRLS MADE THEIR RELATION ONLY WORSE.

NOW EVEN THE BOYS AVOID HIM.

RYOU, YOU SAID SCHOOL WAS FOR SOCIALIZING, RIGHT?

SINCE WE'RE OLD BUDDIES, WE STAND OUT IN CLASS.

OH RIGHT.

I AGREE.

THEN LEARN BY GETTING STABBED ONE DAY.

I HAVE TO PASS. I PROMISED MY SISTER I'D PLAY WITH HER ...

LIAR!

YOU COME TOO, ARATO.

Eh?!

I MADE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE GIRLS FROM THE NEIGHBOUR HIGH SCHOOL ON SUNDAY.

THERE'S NO WAY YUKA-CHAN WOULD ASK OUT HER BROTHER WHEN HE'S LOW ON CASH RIGHT NOW.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT YUKA?!

HE LIKES TO INVOLVE YOU.

AND KENGO AND I MIGHT BE IDIOTS TOO FOR HANGING OUT WITH HIM.

IT'S FUN BEING WITH ARATO.

HE MIGHT BE A REAL IDIOT, IF YOU RESET HIS BRAIN.

WHAT DO YOU SAY ABOUT WATCHING CHERRY BLOS-SOMS?

OKAY THEN ...

4 GIRLS.

HOW MANY DID YOU INVITE?

LET'S WATCH THEM THIS SUNDAY.

HEY, GO APOLO-GIZE TO THEM AL-READY

EVEN IF KENGO AND I GO, WE'RE ONLY THREE.

YOU SURE DON'T GIVE UP

YOU'RE IMPLYING I ONLY HAVE TWO FRIENDS, RIGHT.

... ARATO,

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

NO! I HAVE OTHERS!

OKAY, LET'S GO.

THANKS.

I'LL HELP HER.

SHE ISN'T HUMAN.

WHEN YOU INTERFERE WITH AN hiE'S WORK,

IT'LL ONLY BE A DISTUR-BANCE TO THEM.

EH?

THERE ARE LOTS OF ANDROIDS CALLED hiE IN OUR CITY.

HUMANS CAN'T DIRECTLY EXPRESS THEIR FEELINGS, SO THEY DO IT BY ACTIONS.

STILL, I WANT TO HELP HER.

LET ME HELP. THE LIGHTS ARE ABOUT TO CHANGE.

THANK YOU.

BUT EVEN NON-HUMANS CAN DO THAT ALREADY.

ごろ…

THAT'S OUR REALITY.

IN 2105, JAPANESE SOCIETY

FUNCTIONS BY LETTING ANDROIDS FILL THE GAPS IN SOCIETY.

...THAT GIRL IN THE TAIYAKI STORE.

I JUST WANT TO BE NICE TO PEOPLE.

ACTUALLY, YOU GUYS SHOULD HELP TOO.

YOU'RE THE TYPE TO GET TRICKED EASILY, FOR SURE.

NO... IS THAT SO?

CAN YOU TELL SHE'S AN hiE?

HOW ABOUT A taiyaki?

HEE~

AND THE SALESGIRL AT THE SUPER-MARKET NEAR THE SKY TREE.

SAME GOES FOR THE CLERK IN THE SOBA STORE OVER THERE.

THEY SURE ARE WORKING HARD.

ANY hiE WILL HELP AN ELDER PERSON WHEN THEY SEE THEM.

I'M FREE TO THINK WHAT I WANT.

THE MIE AREN'T WORKING HARD AT ALL.

ARE YOU THE TYPE TO CHEER ON A TURNING MOTOR?

SCIENCE HAS MADE ITS WAY INTO THE LAND OF FAIRYTALES.

A FAIRYTALE.

WHAT'S WITH THAT CAT?

IT'S PULLING ON SOMETHING HEAVY...

EVEN NON-SCIENCE PEOPLE WERE CONVINCED. THAT'S WHAT I CALL PROGRESS.

THEY'RE RUNNING THEIR MOUTHS.

UWA

UWAA!!

ドン

...

AGAIN?

H-hey...

THEY FOUND A COUPLE OF SCRAPS.

WHAT A WASTE.

THERE'S SOMEONE AROUND LATELY THAT SMASHES hiE.

YOU MEAN, POOR THING, RIGHT?!

A WASTE ....?

IF SOME-THING OF THE WORTH OF A CAR GETS TURNED INTO SCRAPS

IT'S ONLY NORMAL TO CALL IT A WASTE.

WE DON'T KNOW WHERE IT'S FROM.

DON'T TOUCH IT.

EVEN SO...

IT DOESN'T REALLY NEED TO BE DUMPED INTO THE BIN, DOES IT?

DON'T BE MISTAKEN, ARATO.

HIE AREN'T HUMANS.

THEY'RE JUST HELPING HUMANS ON A SET PATTERN.

THEY LOOK LIKE HUMANS

AND BEHAVE WELL

TO MAKE THEM MORE ATTRACTIVE TO BUY.

IT'S FABRICATED ADVERTISING.

.....

THEY ARE JUST

OBJECTS.

STILL, BECAUSE IT LOOKS HUMANOID,

IT'S HARD TO JUST THROW IT AWAY.

SURELY, NO ONE IS MAKING A RUCKUS ABOUT IT.

I ALSO GOT CALMER KNOWING IT WASN'T A MURDER.

LET'S HAND IT TO THE POLICE.

I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO THROW IT AWAY.

THAT NIGHT

SOMETHING STARTED TO MOVE

YUKA, ARE YOU STUPID?

HOO?

YOU CALL THAT HAVING A SNACK?!

You only ate the sweet and sour pork.

YAHOO-- MEAT--

LIKE AN ANIMAL.

TELL ME WHAT YOU WERE THINKING WHILE I WAS GETTING THE RICE.

BUT YOU TOOK SO LONG WITH THE RICE---

beep

!

30 minutes ago

IT'S AN EXPLO-SION.

WOW,

WAH

an explosion at Tokyo Bay's 2nd land reclamation

22:35 CH007

IDIOT. IT'S CLOSE BY.

BY LINEAR DISTANCE IT IS.

THIS LOOKS CLOSE, BUT IS FAR AWAY, RIGHT?

FIGU-RED.

IT WON'T.

MAYBE CLASS WILL BE SUS-PENDED TOMORROW-

SO IT'S CLOSE, I SEE. THAT'S SERIOUS.

SHE'S TOO SPOIL-ED,

BUT SHE'S A KIND GIRL.

I HOPE NO ONE WAS INJURED...

EH!

I DON'T WANT FRIED NOODLES AGAIN!

BROTHER, WORK PART-TIME AND BUY ONE LIKE THIS.

IT WAS AN hiE COM-PANY.

AH, NO MORE RICE.

LET'S GO WITH FRIED NOODLES THEN.

お?

Lot.

.... YEAH.

WE HAVE NO MORE RICE, SO WE HAVE TO BUY IT.

PLEASE MAKE IT RICE.

ONII-CHAN!

WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, BUY SOME ICE-CREAM.

ICE-CREAM!

Ice-cream please

WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHILE YOU'RE AT IT"....

So spoiled

SO CHEAP,

I'M GOING OUT SHOPPING LATE AT NIGHT JUST FOR THAT?!

Love ya ♡

ドヨ～ン

TODAY WITH THAT EXPLOSION, IT'S TOO DANGEROUS FOR A GIRL TO GO OUT.

TO-

YOU'RE GOING?

Be careful

Sure, sure

HOW UNCALLED-FOR.

I HOPE THERE WILL BE AN EXPLOSION SOMEWHERE TOMORROW TOO.

I'M REALLY SPOILING HER...

I SAY ALL THAT, BUT I'M HAPPY SHE RELIES ON ME.

BUT I WONDER IF IT'S ALRIGHT AFTER THAT EXPLOSION.

OH MY, OUT SHOPPING?

Hahaha

WE WERE OUT OF RICE.

YEAH.

GOOD EVE-NING.

YOU'RE SHOPPING TOO, MARIE-SAN?

Let's walk together

Okay

OH RIGHT, MARIE-SAN WAS AN HIE TOO.

THE LAND-LORD'S.

OKAY, GOT EVERYTHING I NEED.

ヒラ...

I GOTTA HURRY BACK OR YUKA WILL COMPL...

?

WHAT'S ...

THIS ...?

EHH?!

381

N-NO CLUE?

AMAZING. WHAT'S THIS?

GUESS IF SHE, AN hiE, DIDN'T SENSE ANY DANGER, IT'S ALRIGHT.

H- HEY ...

SO PRETTY.

Wait, Marie-san.

MARIE-SAN, YOU'RE GOING TOO...

GEEZ, WHAT'S WITH THESE BLOSSOMS.

FAST!!

AH, THERE SHE IS ...

HEY, MAR-

I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING...

MY LEGS WON'T MOVE...!

!!?

M-MA-
MARIE-
S-

CREAK

!!!

CRUNCH

CRACK

...

ドカ

AW...

W-

#4

WHAT THE...

WHAT IS THIS?

I'VE GOTTA RUN OR I'M IN TROUBLE.

IT ISN'T REAL.

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING.

BUT TO LEAVE MARIE-SAN BEHIND...

WHA-

WHAAT THE HELL !!

OUCH...! HIT MY SHOULDER.

UH

CRASH

I GOTTA HURRY BACK.

Y- YUKA IS WAIT- ING.

WA- WAH-

AGAIN ...!!

JUST WHO...

はぁ

GIVE... ME A REST ALREADY.

はぁ

GUAH

CREAK CREAK

LET ME WAKE UP IF THIS IS A DREAM.

FOR NOW, I HAVE TO...

... SAYING THAT WON'T SOLVE ANYTHING.

HELP ME.

SOMEONE

HELP MEEE !!

THESE FLAMES SHACKLED ME.

IT WAS THE SAME SCENE I SAW COUNTLESS TIMES IN MY NIGHTMARE.

I SENSED THIS WAS THE END.

THAT'S WHY...

THE SILHOUETTE

I SAW BACK THEN

I WAS SPEECHLESS IN FRONT OF

THIS AMAZING BEAUTY.

……

YOU REQUESTED HELP.

I'M

Lacia.

PIXIV PROFILE

NICKNAME	UGUISU KAGURA
WEBSITE	HTTP://WWW20.BIG.OR.JP/~UGISY/
OCCUPATION	GRADE SCHOOLER
SELF INTRODUCTION	MY RELATIVES FOUND THIS ALREADY, SO I'M BACK TO MY OLD NAME. MYPIC IS WELCOME. OR RATHER I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ONE MYSELF. IT'S KINDA EXCITING! SO, NICE TO MEET YOU. TWITTER/KAGURA_U

WORKSPACES

COMPUTER	IT'S FREEZING LATELY.
MONITOR	THE BRIGHTNESS IS FADING.
SOFTWARE USED	PHOTOSHOP
SCANNER	LATEST YABAME
GRAPHIC TABLET	ABOUT TIME I GET A NEW ONE.
MOUSE	REALLY NOW, DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, APPLE.
PRINTER	BROKE DOWN TWO TIMES, DIDN'T BUY A NEW ONE.
WHAT'S ON YOUR TABLE?	A COPIC I HAVEN'T USED.
DRAWING TUNES	ANYTHING THAT ISN'T JAPANESE, SINCE IT WOULD DISTRACT ME.
TABLE	BEEN WITH ME FOR YEARS.
CHAIR	I WANT ONE THAT'S EASY ON YOUR HIPS.

BEATLESS
– dystopia

Author SATOSHI NASE
Artist KAGURA UGUISU
http://beatless.jp/
Phase1
[Encounter]
ビートレス－ディストピア
BEATLESS
-dystopia
TL cloud04
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cloud04
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Scanlated by fans, for fans.
www.simple-scans.com
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SOUGHT
FOR HELP.
YOU

...I'M ENDOU ARATO.

MY
NAME IS
Lacia.

Phase2[Contract]

1/4

1/4

1/4

clatter

はっ

ｻｯ…

YOU'LL TURN CRAZY TOO IF THAT HITS YOU.

LET'S RUN!

WHY DO WE HAVE TO RUN?

…EH?

EVERYONE IS SCARED OF THAT.

BOO

OF COURSE !!

WE MIGHT DIE!!

ARE YOU SCARED?

THEN YOU JUST NEED TO

OVERCOME THAT FEAR.

IF NOT HERE, WHERE WILL YOU FIGHT?

AND THEN?

WHAT CAN I DO?

IT'LL BE A REAL MESS ONCE PEOPLE COME OUT AFTER THEY HEARD THE EXPLOSION...

SHIT! AT THIS RATE, Lacia TOO WILL...

!!

OK

I'M SCARED... SO SCARED THAT I'M ABOUT TO GO CRAZY.

DON'T MOVE.

YOU SHOULD BE FINE FOR NOW.

THERE ARE THINGS ONE CAN DO.

ONCE YOU ACTUALLY TRY,

LET'S GO!

YOU'RE AN HiE, RIGHT?
CAN'T YOU CONTACT THE POLICE?

THE POLICE HAVE NO WAY TO STOP THE ENEMY.

...ENDOU ARATO.

I SEE... TOO BAD.

DO YOU TRUST ME?

STILL,

SHE ISN'T A NORMAL hiE.

I TRUST YOU!

SHE MIGHT BE EVEN RELATED TO THIS PETAL SHOWER.

.....

DOUBTING A GIRL WOULD BE LAME.

...WILL IT BE ALRIGHT TO GO HOME LIKE THIS?

WE'LL BE AT MY HOUSE IN AROUND FIVE MINUTES.

!

WHAT ARE YOU...

OWW

...THANKS.

ENDOU ARATO, I HAVE A REQUEST FOR YOU.

Please become my owner.

I CONCLUDED

THAT YOU'RE APPROPRIATE TO BE MY FIRST OWNER.

OWNER?

YOU MEAN, YOU'LL BELONG TO ME?

YOU SAID THAT YOU TRUST ME.

STILL,

YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ME!!

NO WAY ...

OKAY!

THERE IS ONE THING I ASK

OF YOU.

WE HAVE REACHED A DECISION.

CONFIRM-ING THE CONTRACT.

I'M A TOOL,

SO I CAN'T TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY.

THERE-FORE...

YOU MUST TAKE

THE RESPON-SIBILITY.

!!

SETTING ENDOU ARATO AS THE OWNER OF THE CLASS LACIA HUMANOID INTERFACE ELEMENTS TYPE-005.

THE KiE AND THE DEVICE BLACK MONOLITH ARE SELF-OPERATING,

NOW THEN; SECURING OWNER'S PHYSICAL DATA.

ONCE I HAVE CONFIRMED THE DATE, PLEASE AGREE TWICE.

YES.

DO YOU AGREE?

THE OWNER WILL SHOULDER ALL RESPONSI-BILITY OF ITS ACTIONS.

STARTING THE LIFE LOG OF THE OWNER.

THESE RECORDS WILL BE MADE ACCESSIBLE ON A JURISTIC CLAIM AND WILL BE USED IN ANY LAWSUITS.

FURTHER CONFIRMATION IS NEEDED TO RELEASE THE LOCK ON THE DEVICE.

OKAY!!

Contract complete.

WROOOOR

ガしゃ…

ガしゃ…

UWAH

アアアア

IS THIS A CONCEN-TRATED ATTACK?!

TO STOP THE UNIT WHICH IS CURRENTLY ATTACKING US,

I SUGGEST THE DISCON-NECTION OF LIGHT DATA TRANSFER.

THE NEEDED METAMATERIAL BARRAGE

WILL ALSO AFFECT WIRELESS CURRENT SUPPLY IN THE AREA.

BUT

DO ANY-THING IF IT HELPS US!

THESE SYSTEMS WILL BE SHUT DOWN TOO.

SHOULD THERE BE ANY HUMANS AROUND WITH LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS,

WOULD BE YOU, MY OWNER.

AND THE ONE TO TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY

BUT WILL WE ATTACK?

THERE'S A POSSIBILITY TO ENDANGER HUMANS CLOSE BY,

YOUR ORDERS, OWNER.

BUT I

ENDANGER... RESPONSI-BILITY... THAT PRESSURE IS KILLING ME.

DO IT!!

TRUST HER.

HEW
HEW
HEW

...EH?

Phase2[END]

BEATLESS

– dystopia

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[Contract]
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IT'S ALL...

GONE.

Phase3[New days]

ATTACKING WITH THE METAMATERIAL MEMBRANE, WHICH HAS A NEGATIVE REFRACTION INDEX,

TURNED THE SMALL UNIT GROUPS TRANSPARENT BY THE GIVEN FREQUENCY BAND.

THE UNITS WERE ISOLATED FROM THE COMMAND SIGNAL AND WIRELESS POWER SOURCE, RENDERING THEM IMPOTENT.

EH!?

HUH

THUD

NOT LIKE I UNDERSTAND ANYTHING OF THAT....

THEY'RE IN A STATE WHERE LIGHT PASSES THROUGH THEM. SIGNALS NO LONGER REACH THEM.

TO PUT IT SIMPLY,

Signal

Signal

Receive

Pass Through

THUD

THUD

IT CAN'T SEE THE PETALS, BUT I FEEL THEM.

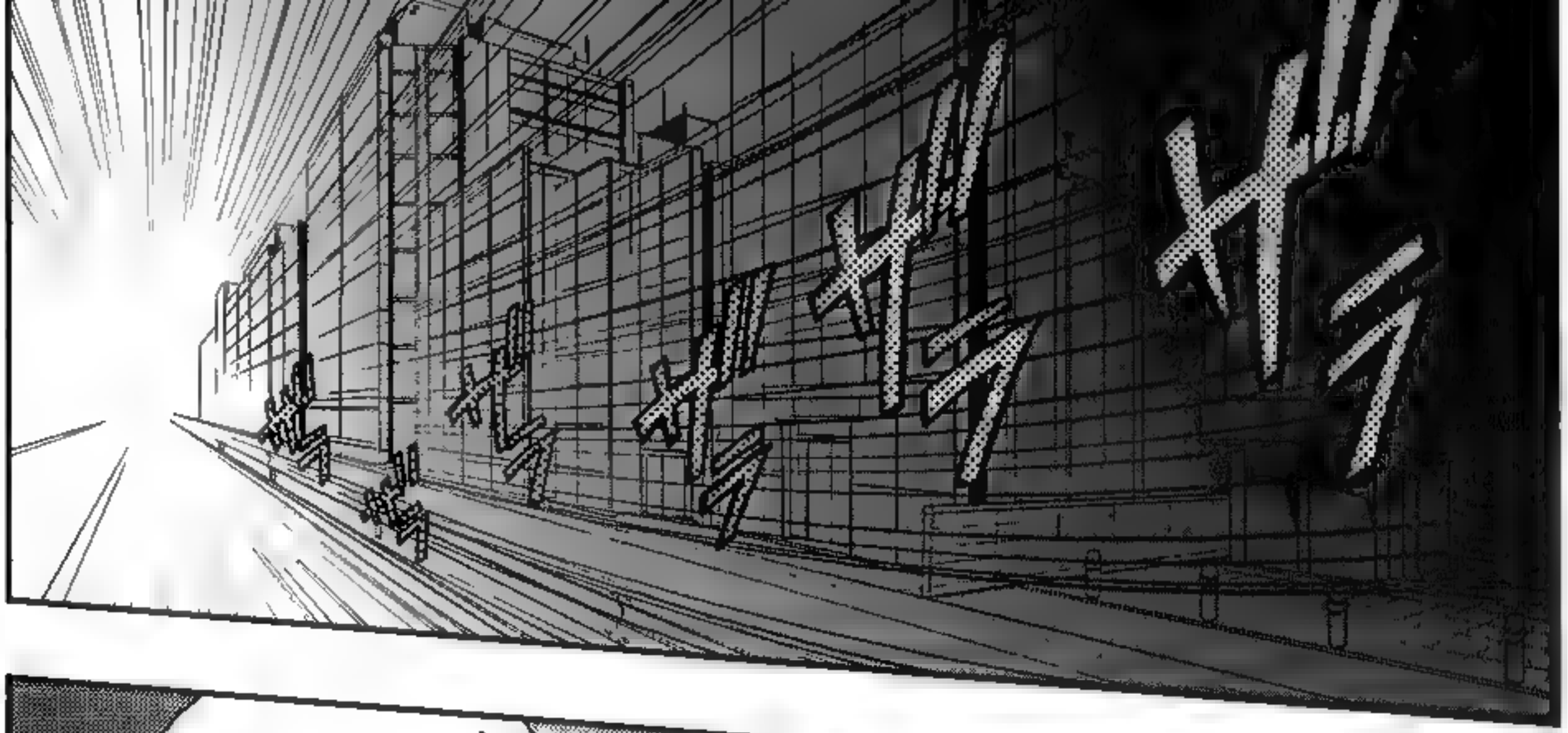
Yeah...

WERE HIT IN AN INSTANT!?

ALL THESE THOUSANDS OF PETALS HERE

Ehh!?

UWA


Huh? It's gone...
THIS IS AMA-ZING.

THIS BEAUTIFUL GIRL

FOR A SECOND, SHE LOOKED LIKE A HUGE BEAST.

Phase3[New days]

APPEARED
DREADING.

AROUND 8 MINUTES.

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE I MET YOU?

..OH, RIGHT.

SO SLOW, ONII-CHAN~~

GOOD. THEN THE ICE CREAM SHOULD STILL BE FINE.

I'M HOME.

BEEP

AH

AH

AH

I hope there aren't any petals on it.

DON'T THINK SHOPPING IS SUCH AN EASY TASK.

AWW~~

!!

I'M Lacia.

NICE TO MEET YOU.

Ah, ehm..

EVEN WORSE!!

I DIDN'T PAY FOR HER.

ONII-CHAN BOUGHT A GIRL...

WHAT SHOULD I DO...

DON'T MAKE ME SOUND LIKE A PERVERT.

YUKA, IT'S A MIS-UNDER-STAND-ING!!

WHAT'S THERE TO MISUNDER-STAND, STUPID ONII-CHAN!!

I APOLOGIZE FOR MY BROTHER.

I'LL TRY MY BEST TO GUIDE HIM BACK ONTO THE RIGHT PATH.

I BELIEVE

THIS IS HIS FIRST OFFENCE. PROBABLY.

WELL, OF COURSE SHE'LL SURPRISED WHEN I GO OUT SHOPPING LATE AT NIGHT AND BRING A GIRL BACK WITH ME.

Ueh~

Ueh~

I'm glad~

SHOULD I BE HAPPY THAT SHE WAS WORRIED, OR SHOULD I BE SAD THAT SHE DOUBTED ME...?

EH, REALLY?

I'M NOT A HUMAN, BUT AN ME. THEREFORE IT'S NOT A CRIME THAT HE BROUGHT ME WITH HIM.

WE FORMED AN OFFICIAL CONTRACT.

I HAD NO OWNER AND HE PICKED ME UP.

CAN WE KEEP Lacia..-san AT OUR HOUSE?

HEY, SINCE WE'RE ON THE TOPIC.

I SHOULD TELL YUKA ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED EARLIER.

I DON'T WANT HER TO GET INTO TROUBLE.

LISTEN, YUKA. I...

YEAH, SURE.

REALLY.

SO, THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH IT.

YOU PICKED HER UP, RIGHT.

THAT ATTACK MIGHT BE AIMED AT THIS GIRL HERE.

AND MARIE-SAN FROM YUZAWA-SAN BROKE DOWN.

WHEN I WAS SHOPPING, TONS OF PETALS CAME DOWN WITH A "BAM."

??

ばっ

Lacia, DO YOU KNOW WHO'S BEHIND THAT ATTACK?

Is Onii-chan okay?

Yes, there's no problem.

NO GOOD. IT'S SO UNREAL THAT I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT WELL...

I DO NOT KNOW.

.....

RIGHT? I BARELY DID ANY-THING.

IT'S GOOD THAT SHE SAVED YOU.

THOUGH Lacia SAVED ME LATER.

FIGU-RED ...

LOOK, I WAS HIT BY A CAR HERE.

IF IT'S DANGEROUS AND YOU STILL BROUGHT HER HERE,

DOESN'T THAT MAKE YOU AN IDIOT?

IT'S NOT EVEN RUNNING ON THE NEWS.

BE-SIDES,

YOU DIDN'T PUT YOUR TRUST IN Lacia, BUT IN ME, WHO BROUGHT HER HERE.

YUKA...

THEN--

SHE'S OURS NOW, RIGHT?

WE CAN MAKE FOOD, RIGHT?

I CAN'T WAIT TO EAT IT~~

Ice cream!

THE USER RATING IS FIVE STARS.

IS THAT DELICIOUS?

(ふぇ～

IF IT'S ABOUT FOOD,

I CAN ACCESS THE BUSINESS CLOUD DATA AND START IMMEDIATELY.

Lacia-san,

I love you. ♡

ギュ!!

YOU WOULD ACCEPT ANYONE THAT SPOILS YOU?

Quickly Quickly

ちゅん

ちゅ

HEY WAIT.

I'M SURE THE POLICE WILL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT WHEN IT GETS BAD.

AH.

IF MARIE-SAN WAS THERE, THEN EVERY-THING WAS RECORDED.

A SHOW ON TV SAID THAT AN HE'S EYES ARE CAMERAS AND RECORD EVERYTHING.

IT'S WAY TOO ABSURD FOR ME TO FIGHT THAT PERSON.

I WAS TOO STRESS ED OUT.

REGARDLESS OF WHO'S RESPON- SIBLE OF THAT PETAL SHOWER

YEAH, RIGHT.

はぁ

THAT'S WHAT THE POLICE ARE THERE FOR.

I DIDN'T EVEN IMAGINE THAT THIS "SPECIAL" GIRL WOULD BECOME A PART OF YUKA'S AND MY LIFE.

BECAUSE I NEVER INTENDED TO BE Lacia'S OWNER FOREVER.

YOU ALWAYS GIVE IT TOO MUCH THOUGHT, ONII-CHAN.

I ENVY YOU FOR YOUR PERSONALITY.

IT'S MORE IMPORTANT WHAT SHE CAN DO FOR ME!

RATHER THAN WORRYING ABOUT WHO SHE IS,

DON'T SAY SUCH JINXING STUFF.

What if you're right!

Aww

YOU USED UP ALL OF YOUR LIFE'S LUCK.

YOU'LL BE IN TROUBLE NOW, ONII-CHAN---

ACCORDING TO WHAT I HEARD FROM YOU, YUKA-SAN,

THERE WILL BE NO DANGER.

IF YOU'RE WORRIED, JUST ASK HER.

WILL IT BE DANGEROUS FOR US TO KEEP YOU?

Lacia IS TROUBLED RIGHT NOW.

SEE, IT'S FINE.

WE CAN CROSS ANY BRIDGE ONCE WE GET TO IT.

I CONFIR-MED THE CONTENTS OF THE FRIDGE.

わーい!

OKAY, LET'S MAKE DINNER.

Wah

WHAT DID YOU TO MAKE IT INTO THIS?

I don't think we had any fancy ingredients...

WE SIBLINGS SURE ARE A FINE PAIR OF NAIVE HUMANS.

Uwa, it tastes like it's from a restaurant

Right, it's so good~ ♪

So good~

So quick

WHO CARES.

NO USE IN THINKING ABOUT IT, HUH?

AH, YES.

HELP YOURSELF BEFORE IT GETS COLD.

TO BEGIN WITH, WE WERE MADE FOR CHORES AND CARE-TAKING.

DO NOT WORRY.

ふぁ～

SORRY

THAT YOU HAD TO MAKE FOOD AS SOON AS YOU GOT HERE.

カチャ

カチャ

!

AW, NO GOOD.

I GOT SO OVER-CONSCIOUS OF HER SKIN.

THAT I FEEL WEIRD NOW.

UWA

THIS MIGHT BE BAD.

HER BODY... WAS SO SOFT.

MAYBE I REALLY USED UP ALL MY LUCK, JUST LIKE YUKA SAID?

IT SEEMS THAT I'M QUITE THE SIMPLE-TON!

Arato-san...

Lacia WILL BE HERE EVERY DAY NOW.

EVEN THOUGH I KNOW SHE'S NOT HUMAN.

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE IT.

N- NO, IT'S FINE. IT'S NOTHING.

I showed an embarrassing side of me.

EH!?

OWNER, WOULD IT BE BETTER I TAKE MY LEAVE?

こぽぽ…

I PREPARED SOME TEA.

THANKS.

BUT AN HIE IS CONNECTED TO THE NETWORK, AND ALL ACTIONS ARE MERELY ACCESSED FROM THE MANAGE-MENT CLOUD SERVICE.

That container was used to cool down water?

WOW. YOU CAN EVEN DO THAT.

THANK YOU.

WHEN I POUR TEA, I'M LINKED TO CLIPS OF HUMANS DOING IT,

AND MY BODY MERELY IMITATES IT.

はぁ…oO

IT FEELS LIKE I WAS LECTURED BY HER.

WHICH REMINDS ME, RYOU SAID THE SAME.

"WE ARE TOOLS."

.....

I BELIEVE YOU LACK THE BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF HEs, OWNER.

DOES IT TROUBLE YOU WHEN I'M IGNO-RANT?

WHERE ARE YOU FROM, Lacia?

SPEAK-ING OF,

KNOWING WOULD BE BETTER FOR THE FUTURE.

IS THAT KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY TO DEEPEN OUR RELATION-SHIP?

IF I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU.

IT'LL BE EASIER FOR US WHEN WE KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER.

I WANTED TO GET CLOSER TO HER. AND

WHEN I MET Lacia. I FELT THAT SHE WAS RELIABLE AND TRUST-WORTHY.

IF POSSIBLE, I WANTED TO REPAY HER WITH MY ACTIONS.

YOU'RE QUITE MISTAKEN.

HOW-EVER,

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON.

I do not possess a soul.

SIMPLE-SCANS NEEDS **REDRAWERS**
ALMOST FOR EVERY PROJECTS.
PLEASE APPLY AT OUR "JOIN US" PAGE
OR DROP A LINE TO ME (SCHTHAXE) AT IRC,
OR OUR FORUM, BATOTO, FACEBOOK, W/E.

EXPERIENCE **IS REQUIRED.**

BEATLESS
– dystopia

Author SATOSHI NASE
Artist KAGURA UGUISU
http://beatless.jp/
Phase3
[New days]
ビートレス－ディストピア
BEATLESS
-dystopia
TL cloud04
Kuma-pun
schthaxe
PR linkkriforce007
cloud04
schthaxe
SIMPLE SCANS
www.simple-scans.com
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Phase4[Place of the soul]

I do not possess a soul.

I JUST PREDICT THEIR EXPECTATIONS AND ACT ACCORDINGLY.

ACCORDING TO A HUMAN'S WORDS AND ACTIONS,

I REACT IN A WAY THAT'S CONVENIENT TO THEM.

THERE IS NO SET PERSONALITY BEHIND MY WORDS.

THE "BEHAVIOR OF HUMANS" IS NO LONGER LIMITED TO HUMANS.

WITH THE PROGRESS OF SCIENCE.

BY MIMICKING THEIR PATTERNS. THEY CAN BE USED FOR SIMPLE JOBS

AND PRODUCE RESULTS.

EVEN IF THEY DON"T HAVE A HEART OR A SOUL.

IF WE LOOK LIKE HUMANS.

THEY CAN ALSO ACT LIKE THEM.

OWNER, YOU WERE ONLY CONCENTRATING ON THE "BEHAVIOR" OF THIS HIE UNIT

AND WERE FOOLING YOURSELF WITH IT.

THAT'S WHY I WAS BURNING WITH ANGER.

I TALKED MYSELF INTO BE-LIEVING THAT I HAD SAVED HER.

EVEN I KNOW THAT WHAT SHE SAYS IS RIGHT.

THEY'RE JUST HELP-ING HUMANS BY FOLLOW-ING SET PATTERNS.

WE AREN'T HUMANS.

DON'T MISUN-DER-STAND, ARATO.

SO THAT'S WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT...

I DISIL-LUSIONED MYSELF TO THINK THAT SHE WOULD BE GRATE-FUL.

SO THERE ALSO A LOT OF THINGS THAT I CAN ENDURE FROM THEM.

AS FELLOW HUMANS, WE SHARE A LOT OF THINGS.

BUT IT'S DIFFERENT FOR HER.

I WONDER IF I HAD GET MYSELF INVOLVED WITH THIS

WHEN SHE DIDN'T LOOK LIKE A HUMAN...?

I...

I do not possess a soul.

REMEMBER MY VERY OWN STARTING LINE---

WHENEVER I'M LOST

A DOG WAGGLING IT'S TAIL.

A DARK RED EXPLOSION AND

SO ONLY SOME RELATIVES DROPPED BY SHORTLY FROM TIME TO TIME.

MY FATHER WAS BUSY AND YUKA WAS STILL SMALL.

BACK WHEN I HAD JUST ENTERED GRADE SCHOOL, I WAS HOSPITALIZED WITH BURNS OVER MY ENTIRE BODY.

I BELIEVED THAT I WASN'T WORTH THE ATTENTION.

BUT I REMEMBER THE DOG'S PLAYFUL BEHAVIOR CLEARLY.

I CAN'T REMEMBER THE NURSE'S FACE.

IT WANTS TO BE YOUR FRIEND, ARATO-KUN.

HE WANTS TO PLAY WITH YOU AS WELL, ARATO-KUN.

AFTER A FEW DAYS.

IT WOULD FOLLOW ME EVERYWHERE, SO I

FORCED MY BODY TO MOVE AROUND EVEN A BIT.

A HUMAN'S HEART IS MOVED BY ACTIONS.

AND I DIDN'T LOOK AT HIM.

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

THE NURSE BROUGHT OVER A BOY.

wuff

spin

spin

wuff

wuff

spin

AND NON-HUMAN THINGS

ALSO SHAKE THE HEART.

Go

ﾅｰﾝ

ﾅｰﾝ

THERE ARE OTHERS THAT BEHAVE QUITE HAPPILY.

EVEN WHEN YOU THINK THE WORLD AND YOURSELF ARE PRETTY SAD.

HE SEEMS TO BE IN PAIN, LIKE HE'S BEGGING FOR HELP...

WORDS BROKE THE SILENCE.

FEELING A WARM SENSATION, I WAS ABOUT TO CRY FOR SOME REASON.

IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S HAVING FUN.

I'M ENDOU ARATO.

THAT I WOULDN'T BE SAD ANY MORE.

I THOUGHT THAT WHEN I APPEARED TO BE HAPPY

ぽた

ぽた

BUT I MUSTERED MY COURAGE AND TOOK THE FIRST STEP.

LET'S BE FRIENDS.

EXTENDING MY ARM WHEN MY BODY HURT ALL OVER WAS A RISK.

I WAS SAVED BY THE HAPPY "BEHAVIOR" OF THE WHITE DOG.

IT MADE ME GET UP.

EVEN WITHOUT A REASON, I'LL EXTEND MY HAND.

POSSESSING NO SOUL,

DOESN'T MEAN YOU WON'T SWAY ANYONE.

BUT HIS HAPPY BEHAVIOR GAVE ME COURAGE.

I NEVER THOUGHT THAT THE WHITE DOG HAD A SOUL.

EVEN THEN, THE HEART WILL BE MOVED.

JUST SITTING AROUND, WOULDN'T CALM YOUR FEELINGS, WOULD IT?

RIGHT, SHE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE FEELINGS.

NO,

SINCE I DON'T POSSESS THAT EITHER,

BUT I STILL WANTED TO DO SOMETHING FOR HER.

I'M REALLY SUCH A SIMPLE-TON!!

AH, SORRY.

YOU'RE SO NOISY, ONII-CHAN.

THE MORNING COMES NEVER-THELESS.

EVEN WHEN I GO TO SLEEP WITH UNSETTLED FEELINGS,

FATHER IS BUSY AND NEVER COMES HOME.

YUKA JUST LIVES IN THE MOMENT.

E- For now, I'll lend you mine.

Looks like my clothes are too small after all.

Lacia APPEARS MORE AND MORE HUMAN

BY HER REPEATED ACTIONS.

WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS

BEEEP

BEEP

UH...

MM...

FOUR DAYS HAD PASSED.

Breakfast is ready. Are you awake already?

French toast. Since you said you had never eaten it before.

WHAT DID YOU MAKE?

IT'S LIKE I'M TOTALLY SPOILED BY HER.

UWA, SO EMBAR-RASSING.

ばふ

get up...

CAN'T BE.

IS THIS REALLY OKAY...?

YEAH.

もちゃ

もちゃ

ガチャ

MORN-ING.

I'll think about it while I eat.

OWNER,

DID YOU GET UP ALL RIGHT?

EH? AH, WELL, I GUESS SO.

Ha Ha...

IT'S KINDA EMBARRASSING SEEING Lacia WEAR MY CLOTHES.

I DIDN'T WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM YUKA.

Am I that transparent?

?

WHA, I WASN'T...

YOU'RE TOO HORNY IN THE MORNING.

ｹﾗ ｰ ｰ

EVEN IF SHE ISN'T HUMAN, I WOULDN'T WANT HER TO HATE ME.

DOESN'T IT...

BOTHER Lacia?

I'LL HAVE YOUR PORTION READY IN A MINUTE.

OKAY.

LOOKS LIKE WE REALLY NEED TO BUY SOME CLOTHES FOR Lacia.

I HAVE SO MUCH FREE TIME IN THE MORNING SINCE Lacia CAME HERE.

PEEP

I can at least do this

Redirecting from Endou Yuka-sama to Endou Arato-sama

HUH?

from: Favion MG
subject: Your application from

Endou Yuka-sama,

our company's model

THIS TOO...

I'LL DEAL WITH THIS LATER.

トロ

きた-!!

ふぁ~

I GOT A MAIL,

BUT ISN'T IT FOR YOU, YUKA?

O-OKAY.

WELL, JUST READ IT.

YUKA, SIT DOWN THERE FOR A SEC.

I'M ALREADY SITTING.

Only the middle part: The hiE "Lacia" you applied into our company's model audition was accepted for the grand prix.

WHAT'S WITH THAT?

THIS

MODEL AUDITION

...

IT'S A GRAND PRIX!

ISN'T IT AMAZING !?

Let's enter Lacia-san

AND YUKA MADE Lacia PARTICIPATE IN IT...

AND THE RESULT

FAVIONMG hIE MODEL AUDITI

IN SHORT, A MEDIA GROUP WAS LOOKING FOR hIE MODELS

IS THIS!!

LOOK HERE!

YUKA MADE HER WEAR HER SCHOOL UNIFORM...

EVEN WITH ALL THE OTHER hiE,

Lacia IS THE MOST OUT-STANDING.

HEY, YUKA.

YEAH, YEAH

SHE'S REALLY PRETTY.

キャッ

Lacia WILL BE BIG IN THE MEDIA NOW!?

...BASI-CALLY

ISN'T THIS PRETTY FAMOUS?

YEAH. IT'S EVEN PRO-MOTED ON TV.

WHEN WE STILL HAVEN'T SOLVED THE PETAL ATTACK ...?!

.....

BY THE WAY, ONII-CHAN,

DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO ME?

YOU'RE... AN....

ignore

IDIOT.

Eeh~

SHE'S SUCH A BEAUTY.

IT WOULD BE A WASTE TO NOT MAKE USE OF IT.

I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH IT.

BUT YOU DIDN'T SAY A WORD TO ME.

SHOW SOME RESER-VATION.

A hiE

Lacia HERSELF GAVE THE OKAY, SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

CAN'T OPPOSE A HUMAN IN SITUATIONS LIKE THIS.

WHAT NOW?

EITHER WAY,

IT CANNOT BE UNDONE NOW.

OWNER.

FAVION MG hIE
MODEL AUDITION

WE JUST ANNOUNCED HER WHERE-ABOUTS TO THE WHOLE WORLD.

IF THERE SHOULD BE AN ENEMY AFTER HER,

WHEN WE MET, WE WERE BOTH ATTACKED.

I TOLD YOU THERE WAS A LOT GOING ON, RIGHT?

YOU KEEP ACCUMULATING PROBLEMS WITHOUT SOLVING THEM.

I NEVER HEARD OF SUCH A WAY.

.....

WHAT KIND OF FUTURE ARE YOU HEADED FOR!?

I LIVE FOR THE FUTURE.

EH...

Whatever is fine!

IT WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE SHE USUALLY SHOWED TO PLEASE HUMANS.

HER FIRST BRIGHT SMILE.

SO hiE

CAN LAUGH ....

IT WAS AN EXPRESSION FROM THE HEART...

THAT MADE IT REALLY HARD TO BELIEVE THAT SHE DIDN'T HAVE A SOUL.

Phase4[END]

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Phase4
[Place of the soul]
ビートレス ディストピア
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Phase5 [Disquieting advice]

REALLY, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT THAT?

I DIDN'T EXPECT THINGS TO GO OUT OF HAND WITH Lacia's PRIZE.

Lacia-san's FIRST JOB IS ON SUNDAY.

SINCE Lacia CAME, MY MORNINGS HAVE CHANGED QUITE A BIT.

MOR-NING.

YOU'RE LATE, ONII-CHAN.

EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE STILL A LOT OF PROBLEMS.

IT'S NOT A PROBLEM FOR ME.

DO NOT WORRY, OWNER.

IT'S A BIG CHANCE!

LUCK WON'T CAME YOUR WAY IF YOU DON'T AT LEAST LAUGH "GEHAGEHA".

ARE YOU BANDIT OR WHAT?

It's a big problem for me, though...

IS THAT OKAY WITH THE MODEL JOB?

I HAVE DAY-DUTY, SO I'M GOING AHEAD.

SURE.

I CHECKED ALL THE DOCU-MENTS HANDED TO US.

IT WAS A NORMAL SUBSTITUTE CONTRACT.

I'm off

SO THEY CALLED TO GET MY FATHER'S SIGNATURE YESTERDAY.

hiE BELONG TO THEIR OWNERS,

SO IT IS MADE THAT THEY EMPLOYED YOU AND YOU MAKE ME, YOUR hiE, WORK.

BUT YOU ARE ALSO STILL A MINOR...

TO THINK THAT HE WOULD EVEN ALLOW ME TO KEEP Lacia HERE.

EXACTLY.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU ARE QUITE SPOILING HER AS WELL TO ME, THOUGH.

HE JUST LETS YUKA DO WHATEVER SHE WANTS.

I GOTTA SMACK HIM A GOOD ONE.

AND IF IT'S A HIGH-CLASS SERIES THAT CAN MAKE IT THROUGH A MODEL AUDITION EASILY...

EVEN AN AVERAGE HIE COSTS AS MUCH AS A CAR.

HAVE YOU REPORT-ED IT TO THE POLICE?

Bye, bye

See you tomorrow

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU PICKED UP A HIE?

NOTHING I COULD DO WHEN I WAS ASKED BY A GIRL.

IF SHE'S THAT EXPENSIVE,

HER PREVIOUS OWNER WILL SURELY COME UP WHEN SHE DOES THE MODEL WORK.

SO YOU DO THINK THINGS THROUGH ONCE IN A WHILE.

Haha

OKAY, I'M GOING TO CALL HOME.

THAT Lacia hiE CAN TAKE CALLS BY HERSELF?

CALL
Lacia

トゥルルル

トゥルルル...

Owner, these two are your friends, I'm guessing.

Ohh

BUT YOU WERE HIDING SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

YOU'RE SO SNEAKY. I THOUGHT YOU WERE ANTI-SOCIAL,

Yes.

Lacia, DO YOU KNOW YOUR SERIAL NUMBER?

FROM WHAT I CAN SEE, SHE ISN'T A NORMAL HIE.

PLEASE LET HER SAY HER SERIAL NUMBER.

Should I send the serial code, as well?

My serial number is LSLX-22S99 176LF.

EH!?

THE LSLX IS STYLAS' BEST MODEL!

PLEASE AT LEAST LOOK UP STUFF LI-KE THIS, SINCE IT'S EASY TO!!

IT'S A HIGH-TIER MACHINE!!

COME WITH ME FOR A BIT, FIRST.

EH?

JUST COME.

... ARE YOU STU-PID?

HEY, WAIT.

STYLAS? I THINK THAT WAS THAT SUPER hiE-MAKING COMPANY IN AMERICA.

HEY, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU, KENDO.

TO BE ABLE TO DIFFERENTIATE hiE FROM HUMANS,

EACH hiE IS MADE TO EMIT A SIGNAL.

WITH THAT, YOU CAN LOCATE THE hiE.

SO IF YOU LOST A MACHINE LIKE HER, YOU WOULD NORMALLY SEARCH FOR HER WITH THAT.

WHAT'S A SERIAL CODE?

Hah

SO THAT Lacia's OWNER CAN'T TRACK HER DOWN MEANS...

THAT THERE'S SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS ABOUT HER.

YOU CAN'T DECIPHER THE CODE,

BUT YOU CAN TRACE THE SIGNAL.

EACH DEALER HAS INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERIAL CODE OF THE hiE THEY SOLD, IN CASE OF THIEVERY.

?

ファビオンMG-hIEモデルオーディション

EVEN THOUGH HER FACE WAS ALL OVER TV DUE TO THE GRAND PRIX...

I WONDER WHY.

DECIPHERING THE CODE MIGHT BE IMPOSSIBLE, BUT YOU CAN GET SOMETHING SIMILAR.

STILL, NO ONE CAME TO PICK HER UP.

I GUESS YOU CAN CALL THAT LUCKY?

NO.

NO FORMER OWNER, AND NO DEALER.

YOU SURE LIKE TO COMPARE STUFF TO CARS.

It's so suspicious!

AND IT'S EVEN MORE SCARY, WHEN IT ASKS YOU TO BECOME ITS OWNER.

YOU WOULD NEVER THINK TO PICK UP A LATEST FERRARI FROM THE STREETS, RIGHT?

YOU CAN CALL THAT FISHY.

PLEASE BE A BIT MORE CAUTIOUS.

?

Calm down

I wanna hit this idiot.

EH!?

I DID.

HE GAVE HIS OKAY.

HAVE YOU ALREADY EXPLAINED IT TO YOUR FATHER?

I CAN UNDER-STAND THEIR REACTION.

His father did?

Unbelie-vable

WHEN I SPOKE WITH HIM YES-TERDAY. I ASKED ABOUT Lacia.

BUT HE SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING.

HE'S RESPECTED FOR HIS FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH OF hiE.

WHICH REMINDS ME.

ANYWAY, YOU'RE ONLY INFORMING US AFTER A WEEK.

SORRY.

ISN'T THAT A BIT COLD?

shake *shake*

I'M Lacia.

YOU CAN STAY, Lacia-kun.

WHAT'S MORE, WHEN HE SAW Lacia, HE COUGHED.

LOOKED AWAY, AND IMMEDIATELY GAVE HIS OKAY.

AS HIS SON, I FEEL AWKWARD TO SEE HIM BEING SO WEAK AGAINST BEAUTIES.

Your friends are really worrying about you, Owner.

I MADE YOU WAIT, Lacia.

SINCE I'M SO CARE-LESS, THEY LOOK OUT FOR ME.

Send Data
hiE
Movement Control Service
Appropriate Movement
A hiE's "BEHAVIOR" IS CONTROLLED BY SOME SERVICE.
SEND ME THE MOVEMENT CLOUD SERIAL, TOO.
Pii Pii
SO WHEN WE KNOW THE CLOUD SERIAL,
Thanks
!!
WE KNOW ON WHICH'S COMPANY'S CODE
THIS BEAUTY IS OPERA-TING.
.....
カリ

UNIQUE UNIT CODE
Serial Number-LSLX-22S99176LF
Used Movement Control Cloud
Memeframe Company
License: April 2105
IT'S FROM OUR COMPANY.
.....
WHAT'S THE RESULT, RYOU?
Zooo
Lacia
"ACT" AT THE MOMENT.
SO IT'S MEMEFRAME THAT'S MAKING
KAIDAI-SAN'S FATHER.
THE PRESI-DENT OF THE MEME-FRAME COMPANY.

EH?

ARATO, DON'T GET INVOLVED.

DO YOU KNOW ANY-THING?

ANY MORE WITH THIS hiE.

DON'T GET IN-VOLVED

WHAT A FACE HE'S MAKING...

YOU BETTER GET RID OF HER.

SO YOU SAY, BUT I'M ALREADY HER OWN-ER.

YOUR LIFE IS PRETTY DECENT EVEN WITHOUT A hiE, RIGHT?

YES. THE MEETING WITH THE MANAGER IS AT 9 A.M.

IT'S THIS CAFE, RIGHT?

SUNDAY. THE DAY OF Lacia's FIRST JOB---

比寿駅
Isu Station

H-HELLO, NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.

カバン

ENDOU ARATO-SAN,

Lacia-chan, NICE TO MEET YOU.

.....?

SHE SURE DOES LOOKS REAL.

I'M...

AH

PLEASE GET OUT YOUR CELL-PHONE,

SO THAT I CAN SEND YOU MY CARD.

IT'S KIND OF A FIRST FOR ME.

EH?

SO YOU'RE Lacia-chan's OWNER

SO YOUNG!

I'M THE HUMAN!

OKAY!

DRAW

??

SHE'S <Kasumi>, A hiE.

SHE DOESN'T HAVE A PERSONAL OWNER, BUT BELONGS TO THE COMPANY.

QUITE DIFFERENT FROM YOUR CASE.

THEN SHE IS...?

THANKS!

I'M KISARAGI ASUNA

FROM FAVION MG'S PROJECT DIVISION.

FaVion

ｸｽｸｽ

AH, HELLO, Kasumi-san. I'M ENDOU ARATO.

ﾌｧｻ

KISARAGI-SAN, PLEASE STOP YOUR FRIEND-SHIP APPROACH JUST BECAUSE HE'S A HIGH SCHOOLER.

THIS IS WORK.

DO PEOPLE TELL YOU THAT YOU'RE DUTIFUL?

Haha...

FIRST, LET'S TAKE A SEAT.

I SEE. YOU'RE USING A SECRETARY CLOUD TOO, HUH?

THAT'S GREAT.

I'VE EXPLAINED IT TO MY OWNER ALREADY.

I'M GUESSING YOU'VE READ THE CONTRACT.

SOMETHING LIKE A SECRET hiE MODEL.

WE WOULD LIKE TO PROMOTE Lacia-chan BY HIDING ALL INFORMATION ABOUT HER.

AS FOR US,

WE CONCLUDED THAT IT WOULD BE HARD FOR HER TO GATHER FANS

WHEN TOO MUCH INFORMATION IS LEAKED, SINCE SHE'S SUCH AN EXPENSIVE MODEL.

I'M GRATEFUL FOR THAT, BUT WILL IT BE ALL RIGHT?

EH!?

SHE'S EXPEN-SIVE?

Lacia-chan's MODEL JOBS WILL AIM FROM HIGH SCHOOLERS TILL THOSE IN THEIR TWENTIES.

WE THINK IT'LL BE HARD TO GAIN THEIR ATTENTION.

IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING STYLAS' LATEST MODEL.

I SEE THAT YOU HAVEN'T PUT AN EMBLEM ON Lacia-chan.

.....

I CAN'T TELL HER THAT I JUST PICKED HER UP. NOT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT HER TYPE.

WHICH REMINDS ME, KENGO WONDERED ABOUT THAT TOO.

IT'S QUITE STRANGE THAT THERE ISN'T THE MAKER'S EMBLEM

OR STAMPS ON HER CLOTHES OR ACCESSO-RIES.

182

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS.

I DON'T WANT HER TO STAND OUT TOO MUCH.

AND HERE I THOUGHT ABOUT WARNING YOU NOT TO HAVE ANY IMAGES OF YOU TWO FLIRTING FLOATING ON THE INTERNET.

GUESS IT'S NOT NEEDED.

!!?

JUST BECAUSE I M HER OWNER, THAT DOESN'T ALLOW ME TO DO ANYTHING.

YES,

I'M SORRY FOR DOUBT-ING YOU.

BUT ON A SERIOUS NOTE,

IF YOU'RE SEEN TOO CLOSE TO A hiE MODEL,

THE FANS WILL GET ANGRY AT YOU.

I SEE THE SIGNATURE OF YOUR GUARDIAN. ENDOU-SENSEI, RIGHT?

NORMALLY WE DON'T RESTRICT THE OWNERS OF OUR hiE MODELS,

BUT THE FANS TEND TO TREAT hiE MODELS LIKE HUMANS

AND SUCH SEE IT AS A LOVER'S RELATION-SHIP.

THE CLASS WAS SURE TO COVER <Matsuri>,

SO I WAS WROTE A REPORT USING YOUR FATHER'S WORK FOR REFERENCE.

BUT I STUDIED ARTIFICIAL INTELLI-GENCE AT COLLEGE.

I MIGHT NOT LOOK LIKE IT,

Lacia-chan ISN'T HIS?

I'M SURPRISED HE GAVE HIS OKAY.

MY FATHER IS RARELY AT HOME. SO IT HURTS TALK ING ABOUT HIM.

I'M SORRY, BUT HE HASN'T REALLY TOLD ANY- ME THING ABOUT THAT.

YOU'RE WELL-INFOR-MED.

MY FATHER IS QUITE FAMOUS IN THE hiE SCENE.

IT'S CLOUDY TODAY, SO IT'S A BIT COLD.

BUT IT'S A RE-MODELED JOYJINT-ADE THAT SHE CAN STILL WEAR SUMMER CLOTHES.

NOW, THEN.

Lacia-chan's FIRST JOB WILL BE A SUMMER VACATION PR.

YOU'RE DOING GREAT, Lacía-chan.

WE PUBLISH VARIOUS MEDIA LIKE FASHION OR LOCAL SPECIALITY MAGAZINES.

WE, FAVION MG, ARE A BIG MEDIA FASHION GROUP. WE PROMOTE HUMANS AND hiE.

AND STREAM IT LIVE ONTO THE INTERNET.

THIS TIME, WE'LL USE SEVEN CAMERA UNITS TO SHOOT Lacía-chan

.....

SHE'S JUST GOING TO WALK LIKE THIS OVER THE MEJI ROAD UP TO SHIBUYA.

ねえ アレ!

ハミアビ!

MAKING USE OF THE SURROUNDINGS LIKE THIS MAKES IT EASIER TO GAIN PEOPLE'S ATTENTION.

SEE, SHE'S LOOKING BACK.

THEY'RE MORE LIKELY TO BUY THE CLOTHES WHEN THEY KNOW HOW IT ACTUALLY LOOKS IN REAL LIFE.

hiE MODELS LIKE Lacia-chan, WHO HAVE A SENSE OF MOTION,

ARE SURE TO SUCCEED ----

Phase5[END]

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Phase5
[Disquieting advice]
ビートレス ディストピア
BEATLESS
-dystopia
TL cloud04
Kuma-pun
schthaxe
TS Linktriforce007
cloud04
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Phase6
[Relative distance]

step

step

step

THE CLOSER THE SHOOTING GOT TO SHIBUYA, THE MORE PEOPLE GATHERED.

Lacia CONTINUED TO DRAW PEOPLE'S ATTENTION.

GYA

GYA

.....

IT'S NOT THAT MY ACTUAL DISTANCE FROM HER IS ALL THAT GREAT,

KISARAGI-SAN, WE'RE SWITCHING CAMERAS.

YES.

BUT IT FEELS LIKE SHE'S GOING FAR AWAY...

wah

BAM!

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU SPACING OUT FOR?

THE JOB THIS TIME IS A FREE SPECTATOR SHOOTING.

heheh

?

ONCE SHE ENTERS SHIBUYA,

STUFF GETS REAL.

beep

当日クーポン券

20% off

12800

8800

WILL SHOW REAL LIFE FOOTAGE

AND COUPONS FOR NEARBY SHOPS.

ALL THE STREET ADVER-TISING

Lacia EVERY-WHERE.

LIKE THIS, WE CAN APPEAL TO A MASS OF CONSUMERS AT ONCE.

IT'S FABION MG'S SPECIAL MOVE.

YEAH...

QUITE THE FITTING STAGE FOR Lacia-chan's DEBUT, DON'T YOU AGREE?

SO MUCH EXCITE-MENT.

IS IT BECAUSE THE TOP MODELS ARE THERE?

!?

OUR AND THE LAST GRAND PRIX'S TOP MODEL WILL MEET UP CLOSE TO THE HACHIKOU.

SFX. WOW, APPLAUSE

IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE THE CLIMAX THERE.

We have to hurry or we'll miss it

WE HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL PLANNED FOR THE SCRAMBLE CROSSROAD.

AH, THERE SHE IS!

EXCUSE ME, LET ME THROUGH.

THAT'S ...?

THAT'S OUR hiE TOP MODEL, Yuri-chan.

AND

THAT'S Angela-chan FROM THE PREVIOUS GRAND PRIX.

OKAY, IT'S TIME FOR TODAY'S MAIN EVENT, ARATO-KUN.

BRAKES...

AND FOUR LARGE TRACKS STOPPED AT THE CROSSROAD AT RED LIGHTS, SURROUNDING IT

TOGETHER WITH THEIR MEET UP, THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS TURNED GREEN

ON!

AND THEN

MUSIC STARTED BLASTING OUT.

SFX: SLAM

A PERFECTLY CALCULATED PLAY

FOR A FEW SECONDS, THE PLACE TURNED INTO A STAGE.

THAT CONNECTED TO THREE hiE.

GIE?

A FEAT ONLY POSSIBLE SINCE THEY ARE HIE.

WOW.

SFXs CROWD NOISE

AH! YOU'RE RIGHT!

ALSO, TEN SHOPS AROUND HERE GAVE OUT COUPONS.

SO ONE CAN HANG OUT HERE ALL DAY.

YOU SEE THE BUILDING THEY WENT IN?

THEIR BUSINESS IS GONNA BOOM...

EH!!

ANYTHING Yuri WEARS RIGHT NOW CAN BE BOUGHT THERE.

ALL THE GIRLS ATTRACTED BY Lacia

ARE THE AGE AS WE PREDICTED.

IT WAS LIKE A FESTIVAL TO DRAW OUT ALL MONEY OF THE PEOPLE.

WHAT THE...

LACIA!

I KNEW SOMETHING WAS OFF.

NO ONE IS BOTHERED BY THE FACT THAT THEY AREN'T HUMANS.

AH, RIGHT!

HUH? WHAT?

I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD SEE HER IN REAL LIFE.

DO Y KNOW ANALO HACK?

KYAA!! IT'S *Lacia!*

IT MEANS THEY LOOK LIKE HUMANS, BUT DON'T HAVE A HUMAN'S REASONING.

SO IT CREATES A GAP BETWEEN THEM AND HUMANS, WHO CAN REASON.

ANALOG HACK!!

SFX. SQUEEZE

YEP.

SO YOU MEAN ALL THESE PEOPLES ARE HACKED INTO BUYING STUFF ...?

THIS A SECURITY HOLE CALLED "BENEVOLENCE" WAS CREATED.

HUMANS COME IN CONTACT WITH HIE,

THERE ARE ALSO A LOT OF COUPLES...

GUESS IT'S A CHEAP DATE WITH THESE COUPONS...

She's hacking society!!

YOUR Lacia-chan IS USING HER "APPEARANCE" TO MAKE HUMANS ACT ON THEIR OWN.

SFX. POINT OUT

BUT SHE DOES IS SO PERFECTLY.

YOU HAVE A POINT.

IT'S NOT Lacia WHO HACKS THEM,

BUT YOUR COMPANY.

IN THE END, Lacia WENT UP TO THE DEPARTMENT STORE AT DOUGENZAKA.

SFX STUCK

WAAAAAH

GOOD JOB.

here

Thanks

GOOD. I WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT TO TALK ABOUT AT THE MOMENT.

SIP SIP

YOU WON'T GET CLOSE TO Lacia-chan UNTIL THE CUSTOMERS ARE GONE,

SO YOU CAN TAKE A BREAK.

STOP IT. LET ME GO!

DON'T GET IN MY WAY!!

SFX. FLEE

SFX SHAKE

BAS-TARD!

STOP IT!

WH-WHAT?!

UWA

SFX PUNCH

GRR

Lacia-chan's SHOULDER IN THE STORE.

IT SEEMS HE GRABBED

WHAT HAPPEN-ED?

IT'S THE NEGATIVE PART OF THE ANALOG HACK.

IN JOBS WITH "APPEARANCE" THE "REASONING" CAN GO OUT OF THE WINDOW.

D-DAMN !!

TAP

TAP

STUFF LIKE THIS HAPPENS FROM TIME TO TIME.

EH?!

FOR US IT'S BUSINESS,

BUT THE USERS ONLY SEE THEIR OWN "REASONING".

BUT THAT REASONING BECOMES A DELUSION AND THEY RUN AMOK.

THEN Lacia-chan's JOB IS DANGEROUS?

THE AUDIENCE WILL BE MADE TO ACT BEFORE THEY THINK.

THAT'S WHAT THE ANALOG HACK AIMS AT.

AH, EHM...

Oh please don't record it

SO THERE ARE WORSE CASES WITH HIE THAN WITH HUMANS.

ANYWAY, WE PERFECTLY FOLLOW UP ON IT. SO REST ASSURED.

COMPARED TO THESE CASES WITH HUMAN MODELS OR STARS,

THE HIE

ARE SOMEWHAT LOOKED DOWN AS "THINGS" BY THE USERS.

AFTER THAT, THE JOB FINISHED WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS.

YOU SURE? I CAN DRIVE YOU HOME.

IT'S OKAY, I WANT TO WALK.

新 小
shin.koiwa

THEY SAID THEY WOULD GIVE YOU GUARDS.

YOU SURE REJECTING IT WAS OKAY?

EVEN THEN,

THERE'S NO WAY THEY WILL MISUSE THAT INFORMATION.

IT IS NOT NEEDED. IF THERE ARE HIE GUARDS CLOSE BY

THEY WILL LOCATE YOUR HOUSE.

A SECURITY COMPANY WILL HAVE THAT INFORMATION.

AS SOON AS WE MET. SHE WAS ATTACKED.

RIGHT...

WELL,

WE CAN ASK THEM WHEN IT GETS SUSPICIOUS.

THE SECURITY COMPANY MIGHT NOT TRUST Lacia.

BUT SHE FELT SO FAR AWAY...

...YOU WERE AMAZING, Lacia.

SHE'S THE SAME FROM THIS MORNING.

SHE SEEMS SO ALIVE WHEN SHE'S SO CLOSE BY.

MH?

SFX. SOFTNESS

SFX. CAME IN SILENTLY

sniff

sniff

...PER-FUME?

YES.

I HAVE NOT CHANGED.

I MET HER UNDER THAT ATTACK.

SO I NEVER REALLY WALKED BESIDE HER.

IT'S

DIAL'S NEW SUMMER PRODUCT.

STILL, SHE'S ALREADY BECO-MING

A PART OF MY LIFE.

IT REALLY SUITS YOU.

SFX SQUEEZE

SOON I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE MY LIFE WITHOUT HER.

I FEEL BAD TO THINK YOU'RE JUST MINE...

EVEN IF I'M YOUR OWNER,

I NEVER KNEW THIS FEELING UNTIL I ACCOMPANIED HER TO THE JOB.

IT'S THE GRAND PRIX, ISN'T IT.

ARE YOU BEING OVER-MODEST?

.....

SFX FLUFF

I will do it just for you.

THIS MOVEMENT WAS IN THE SHOW...

IF YOU ARE SAD THAT THE SHOW WAS FOR EVERYONE,

THEN THIS TIME

I FEEL SO AT EASE.

BUT WITH Lacia

IT'S THE SAME ROAD AS ALWAYS.

WHAT'S WITH THAT CROWD?

?

IS THAT SOMEONE, WHO ACCORDING TO KENGO GOES AROUND BREAKING hiE,

NEAR MY HOUSE?

DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?

MH? YEAH.

LOOKS LIKE A hiE WAS BROKEN.

I SEE!

BUT WHY IS THERE A CROWD NOW...

Even if you bring us this

IT'S QUITE DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE.

THE POLICE ARE HERE.

CAUTION KEEP OUT

HURT.... THAT'S BAD.

IT SEEMS THE OWNER WAS HURT IN AN ATTEMPT TO PROTECT THE HIE.

THE OWNER WAS WITH THE HIE.

BREAKING A hiE WON'T BECOME A CASE,

CAUTION KEEP

BUT SINCE THERE WAS A VICTIM IT BECAME LIKE THIS.

A GROUP OF THREE MEN IN A BIG WHITE VAN

TRIED TO KIDNAP A FEMALE hiE.

ON THAT OCCAS-SION,

THE OWNER ATTACKED THE CULPRITS TO HINDER THEM.

THE OWNER WILL BE FULLY HEALED IN ONE WEEK.

DO NOT WORRY.

THE hiE WAS FINE TOO.

HUMAN AND THINGS ARE DIFFERENT. SO A DIFFERENCE IS OBVIOUS.

BUT

I CAN'T BRUSH IT OFF SO EASILY.

AH, SORRY ...

PLEASE DON'T TOUCH THE TAPE.

POUT

I WANT TO ASK HOW SHE KNOWS ALL THAT,

BUT BETTER NOT.

I can pretty much guess it though..

ON

DAMN, I'M PISSED.

UWA

TCH

JUST A hiE!!

SFX PUNCH

YOU'RE JUST hiE SO DON'T GIVE ME OR-DERS.

MH?

SHOULD I TAKE THAT OUTBREAK OF THIS MAN AS JUST A TEMPORARY ONE?

OWNER,

.....

HOW VIO--ENT.

WHY?

JUDGING BY THAT,

HE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THE POLICE OFFICER COULD HAVE BEEN AN hiE.

I LISTENED TO HIM AND THE SURROUNDING CONVERSATIONS.

ANALOG HACK.

YEAH.

BUT HE GOT ANGRY AT THE FACT THAT HE WAS ANALOG HACKED.

BEFORE HE MISTOOK HER "APPEARANCE" AND OBEYED.

YOU CAN SAY THAT HE WAS ANALOG HACKED.

IT'S OKAY.

.....

I PARTI-CIPATED IN THE ANALOG HACK AS A MODEL,

BUT I SUPPOSE I SHOULD HAVE CALCULATED HOW MUCH HOSTILITY IT CAN CREATE.

SO IF IT GETS DANGEROUS... I'LL APOLOGIZE AND YOU CAN QUIT THE JOB.

WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENS, I'LL SAVE YOU.

THE OWNER TAKES RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HiE, RIGHT?

OKAY.

BUT THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY, OWNER.

BECAUSE SHE HAS NO SOUL.

SO SHE DOESN'T HAVE BAD INTENTIONS, IS WHAT I THOUGHT.

WHAT THE FUCK ?!!

WHAT'S THIS.

SFX BUZZ

HMM,

She's emitting that signal.

Phase6[END]

BEATLESS
-dystopia

Author SATOSHI NASE
Artist KAGURA UGUISU
http://beatless.jp/
Phase6
[Relative distance
ビートレス ディストピア
BEATLESS
-dystopia
TL cloud04
Kuma-pun
schthaxe
TS Bombardier
cloud04
schthaxe
SIMPLE SCANS
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Scanlated by fans, for fans.

hIE——

humanoid Interface Elements

SO CALLED HUMANOID ROBOTS.

SO THEY CAN HELP OUT EVERYWHERE.

hiE CAN UNDER-TAKE MOST PHYSICAL ACTIONS.

THE WORLD HAS BECOME SO CONVE-NIENT.

BUT AN UNEXPECTED INCIDENT OCCURRED---

crack crack

explosion in the lab.

Team Chest, we'll confirm it again before the mission

WHAT A QUAINT MISSION.

The mission is to destroy or capture the five hiE, which escaped due to the

AND LOOK AT THIS WEAPON LIST THAT MEMEFRAME ALLOWED US TO USE...

ORIGINALLY, hiE WEREN'T ABLE TO "ESCAPE".

THEY ARE RADIO CONTROLLED DOLLS THAT "MIMIC" HUMANS.

SFX. COPTER WHIRLS

BEEP BEEP

WHAT NOW?!

TOTALLY OVERBOARD FOR JUST FIVE hiE.

hmph

STOP IT!!

IF THE CONTAINER IS DESTROYED, WE CAN'T CONTROL OUR WEAPONS ANYMORE!

TARGET HIE IS APPROA-CHING THE CONTROL CONTAINER.

SFX. SPIN

SFX. STEP

SFX. RUNNING LIGHTLY

SFX. SLASH

AHAHA

EVEN ONE IS CAUSING SUCH DES-TRUCTION, NEVER MIND FIVE...!

SFX. SHWIPP

CAN'T YOU SEND YOUR TEAM OVER?

NO! I CAN'T OPERATE THEM ANYMORE AFTER SOME UNKNOWN SHOT.

DAMN!

ALREADY SUCH CHAOS AFTER ONLY A FEW MI-NUTES.

SFX: CLATTER

SFX: CRUNCH

!!

IT'S AIMING FOR THE CON-TAINER!!

SFX LIGHT BEAM

YUSEF, READ IT. I'M WATCHING THE BATTLE RIGHT NOW.

ROGER.

BUZZ

Our client finally gave us information.

Don't go for them all at once. First take down the easiest one.

Class Lacia

humanoid Interface Elements

CAN MAKE HIGH-LEVEL DECISIONS EVEN WITHOUT THE NETWORK.

EQUIPPED WITH A QUANTUM COMPUTER.

USAGE: UNKNOWN

step

Type—001
Code
〈CRIMSON
FOG〉

Type—002
Code
〈SNOW
DROP〉

Type—004
Code
〈■■■■〉

Type—003
Code
〈SATURNUS〉

SFX CRACKLE

SFX RUMBLE

Code

〈LACIA〉

Type—005

SFX STEPS

SFXs SQUEAK, CHIRP

YUSEF, CONNECT US BACK TO THE NET-WORK. WHAT HAP-PENED ?!

UWA

SFX: SPIN, SPIN..

SFX. SLAM

ELEC-TRONIC WAR-FARE, HUH.

HACKED INTO US. I CAN'T GET THE CONNECTION BACK.

USING MEME-FRAME'S TRANS-MISSION LINE, SOME-ONE

IN A HIGH TIER BATTLE USING UNMANNED MACHINES, TRANSMISSIONS ARE EVERYTHING.

IF THESE "GIRLS" DECODED THE MILITARY"S CODE AND HACKED THE SYSTEM..

THEY ARE WAY TOO DANGER-OUS!!

JUST WHAT DID WE LET GET AWAY...

INTO THE SEA, HUH ...

PLAN A CONSIDERS THAT THEY ESCAPED INTO THE SEA.

WE LOST ALL FIVE HIE!

WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT KIND OF POWER THE OTHERS HOLD.

ONE OF THEIR "TOOLS" ALREADY HAD SUCH POWER.

.....

BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW THAT YET.
THE MEETING WITH AN UNKNOWN GIRL WOULD CHANGE THE BOY'S LIFE GRAVELY.

Phase0[END]

BEATLESS

– dystopia

DEAR UGUISU KAGURA-SAN.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE "BEATLESS-DYSTOPIA" SERIALIZATION. DRAWING AN SF STORY IS HARD IN VARIOUS MEANINGS. A TOWN 100 YEARS IN THE FUTURE HAS MANY UNKNOWN FEATURES AND ONE CAN LOSE HIMSELF EASILY THERE. I ENJOYED READING YOUR HARD WORK ON THAT EVERY DAY. THE INCREDIBLY CUTE DRAWINGS, INCLUDING THE MINOR HLE CHARACTERS, PORTRAY THE WORLD SO WELL THAT I, AS THE AUTHOR, AM VERY GRATEFUL. IN SHORT, THE LACIA YOU DREW IS REALLY CUTE.

FROM HASE SATOSHI, AUGUST 2012

AFTERWORD

A STORY ABOUT HUMANS AND THINGS.
A PROFOUND SF STORY BY THE AUTHOR HASE-SAN AND THE ILLUSTRATOR REDJUICE-SAN.

I WAS SURPRISED ALL THE TIME BY THE REVEALING PLOT, THINKING "THIS WAS ALL PLANNED OUT?!".

SF MIGHT BE A GENRE THAT'S HARD TO GET INTO, BUT AS A READER AND ARTIST, I HOPE THIS MANGA PIQUES YOUR INTEREST AND YOU'LL TRY OUT THE NOVELS.

I BELIEVE IT WILL HELP YOU SORT OUT THINGS THAT YOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IN THE MANGA...!

PLEASE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT VOLUME!

UGUISU KAGURA, 2012.9

SPECIAL THANKS

神山哲也
神田賢治

Charli.H.ide
岡本泰弘

本多英樹

担当さん

Kadokawa Comics A

角川コミックス・エース

BEATLESS-dystopia①

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2012年9月26日初版発行

発行者 新名 新

発行 株式会社角川書店
〒102-8078 東京都千代田区富士見2-13-3 電話／(03)3238-8663(編集)
発売 株式会社角川グループパブリッシング
〒102-8177 東京都千代田区富士見2-13-3 電話／(03)3238-8521(営業)
http://www.kadokawa.co.jp

装幀・デザイン 和田幸男

印刷 大日本印刷株式会社
製本 大日本印刷株式会社

初出／『月刊少年エース』'12年2月号、4月号～9月号

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2012 KADOKAWA SHOTEN, Printed in Japan

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ISBN978-4-04-120399-6 C0979

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